

Attorney's Docket No. 5470-238

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: MacDonald et al.

Art Unit: 1648

Serial No.: 09/288,837

Examiner: Z. Lucas

Filed: April 8, 1999

For: **METHODS AND MODIFIED CELLS
FOR THE TREATMENT OF CANCER**

February 24, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

Responsive to the Office Action dated October 22, 2002, it is respectfully requested that this application be reconsidered in view of the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims.

Please replace the pending claims of like number with the following rewritten claims:

71 84. (Amended four times) A composition comprising infectious alphavirus particles in an immunogenically effective amount to prevent or treat cancer, wherein said alphavirus particles comprise one or more heterologous nucleotide sequences encoding a native cancer cell antigen; and wherein said alphavirus particles infect antigen-presenting cells, and further wherein said alphavirus particles comprise one or more attenuating mutations.

72 95. (Amended three times) A composition comprising infectious Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (VEE) particles in an immunogenically effective amount to prevent or treat cancer, wherein said VEE particles comprise one or more heterologous nucleotide sequences encoding a native cancer cell antigen; and wherein said VEE particles infect antigen-presenting